

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended with an eye toward correcting the informalities noted on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

With regard to certain informalities noted by the Examiner, and specifically, the informality stated on page 3 of the Office Action with reference to page 2, lines 20-21 of the specification, the Examiner objects to the word "gray" to describe a "neutral density". Applicant notes that the context of the use of the term "gray" in the present invention illustrates an example of a neutral density, and further sets forth that the gray density patches can be encoded as grays that range from white to black, as described on lines 20-23 of page 2 of the specification.

With regard to the Examiner's objection with reference to page 3, lines 3-14 of the specification, Applicant believes that the system or apparatus of the present invention with respect to calibration is described at least on pages 1 and 2 of the specification. For example, on page 1 of the specification in the discussion of the background, an apparatus is described with respect to an input being an array of color signals that communicate desired colors of a corresponding array of picture elements in the image to be rendered. Further, Figure 2 clearly illustrates the elements of a color reproduction apparatus with respect to a processor that inputs digital data.

Regarding the drawings, Figure 1 has been amended to include the label PRIOR ART as required on page 4 of the application.

Further, Figure 2 has been amended to include reference numeral 18 for the densitometer, while page 5 of the specification has been amended to include reference numeral 10 for the color image and reference numeral 16 for the density patches as shown in Fig. 2.

The amendments to Figures 1 and 2 are shown in red on the attached copies of the Figures.

With respect to the Examiner's objections to Figure 3, reconsideration is respectfully requested. The aim curve shown in Figure 3 shows the relationship of the input code values and output densities and illustrates that as the input code values increase the density increases. Further, as described on pages 5 and 6 of the specification, the density output is provided as a function of the input code values for the entire density range, while the diagonal line represents the desired behavior of the system for one possible aim curve description where the input code values are linearly related to desired output

densities. Thus, as noted above, it is believed that Figure 3 focuses on the relationship between the input code values and the density in accordance with the present invention.

With respect to the Examiner's objection to the drawings with reference to claim 6, the objected to language has been deleted from the claim.

Regarding the Examiner's objections to the drawings with respect to claims 7-12, the claims have been amended to set forth a calibration system that comprises the noted patches. This feature is shown in Figures 4 and 5 of the drawings and described on pages 7-8 of the specification. For example, Figure 5 describes a system that includes a first patch with a neutral density and at least a second patch having a red code value that is deviated from its neutral value, a third patch having a green code value that is deviated from its neutral value and at least a fourth patch having a blue code that is deviated from its neutral value.

Regarding the objection to claim 11 as noted on page 5 of the Office Action, claim 11 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 1-2, 4-5 and 7-12 are pending in the present application. Claims 3 and 6 have been canceled by the present amendment. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for the reasons noted on page 6 of the Office Action. Claims 3, 4, 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-3, 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Liu '469. Claim 4 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Liu '469 in view of Johnson '866.

With respect to the rejection of claim 7 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, claim 7 has been amended with an eye toward correcting the informality noted by the Examiner on page 6 of the Office Action.

Accordingly, claim 7 and claims 8-12 which depend from claim 7 are believed to be in compliance with the requirements of 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

Referring to the rejection of claims 3-6 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, the claims have been amended where appropriate to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner on page 7 of the Office Action.

Accordingly, claims 3-5 are believed to be in compliance with the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Referring to the rejection of claims 1-3, 5 and 6 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Liu '469, the reference to Liu is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the specific features required by the claimed invention. As described on page 6 of the present specification, in a feature of the present invention, rather than having only patches with neutral code values, the invention provides for the production of a series of additional patches that vary

the red, green and blue input code value somewhat from neutral values. The method of claim 1 requires the step of using a color reproduction apparatus to produce a calibration target that has a plurality of color patches. As further required by claim 1, the reproduction apparatus uses input code values that correspond to a sampling of color densities, wherein one subset of the color patches is intended to have neutral color density values and another subset of the color patches is intended to have non-neutral color density values deviating in their mix of red, green and blue from each other.

It is not believed that the reference to Liu shows or suggests the above features of the present invention. For example, column 6 of Liu suggests that a test target includes one or more neutral patches. It is also disclosed that color patches or a combination of neutral and color patches can also be used. However, it is not believed that Liu teaches that the test target is to have the specific features of claim 1 with respect to one subset of color patches having neutral color densities and another subset of patches having non-neutral color densities that deviate in their mix of red, green and blue from each other.

Accordingly, the reference to Liu is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the features of claim 1.

Claims 2 and 4-5 depend from claim 1 and set forth additional unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggested in Liu. Accordingly, these claims are also believed to be allowable.

Claim 7 relates to a calibration system that includes at least one first patch with a neutral density code value, at least one second patch having a red code value that is deviated from its neutral value, at least one third patch having green code value that is deviated from its neutral value, and at least one-fourth patch having a blue code value that is deviated from its neutral value. For the reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, it is not believed that the reference to Liu shows the specific patches as required by claim 7, wherein the patches are deviated from their neutral values to provide for a calibration system as required by the claimed invention.

Accordingly, the reference to Liu is not believed to show or suggest the features of claim 7.

Claims 8-12 depend from claim 7 and set forth further unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggested in the reference to Liu.

Therefore, the reference to Liu is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the specific features required by claims 1-2, 4-5 and 7-12.

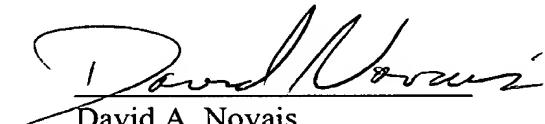
Referring to the rejection of claim 4 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Johnson, the reference to Liu and its

applicability to the claimed invention has been discussed above. The reference to Johnson, whether considered individually or in combination with Liu is not believed to show or suggest the specific features of the present invention. That is, the applied references are not believed to show or suggest the claimed color patches that have neutral density values, and a further subset of color patches that have non-neutral color density values that deviate in their mix of red, green and blue from each other. Further, the above-noted references, whether considered individually or in combination, are not believed to show or suggest the features of the color patches which deviate from their neutral value in the manner required by claim 7.

Accordingly, Liu and Johnson, whether considered individually or in combination, are not believed to anticipate and make obvious the specific features required by claims 1-2, 4-5 and 7-12.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is submitted that the inventions defined by each of claims 1-2, 4-5 and 7-12 are patentable, and a favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

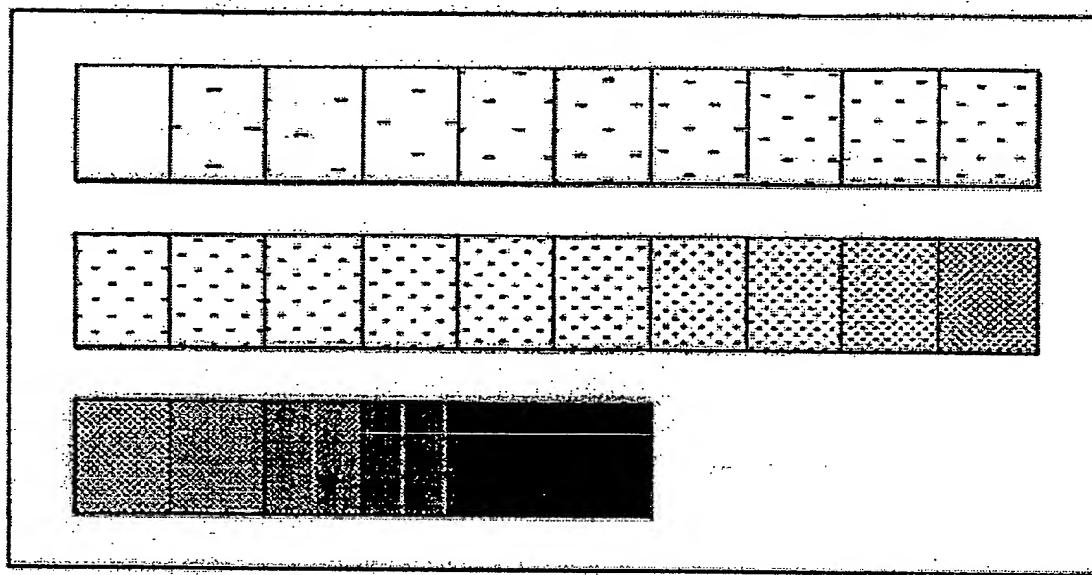
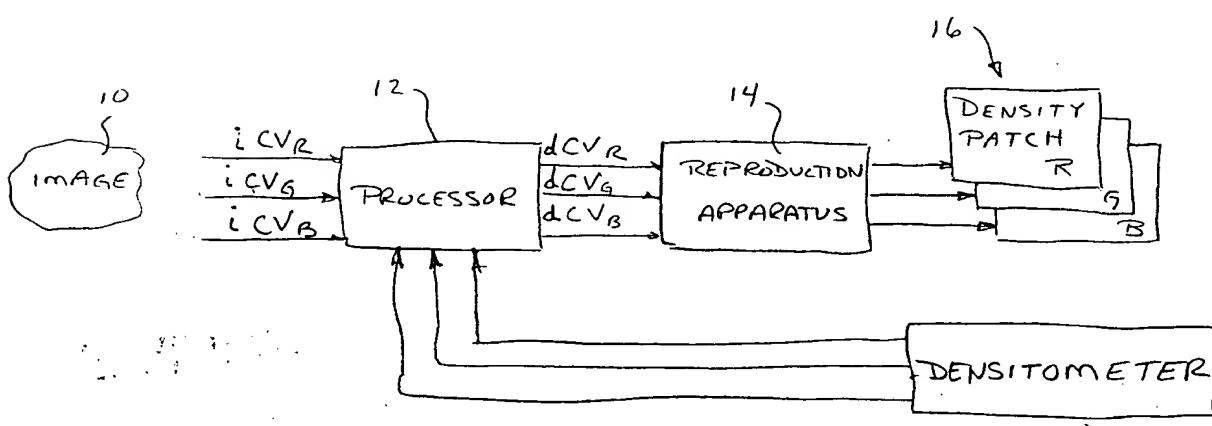


FIG. 1

PRIOR ART

FIG. 2



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